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7. (Confidential - JMM) Lunched with Senator Symington whom I briefed in detail on our several meetings with Senator Baker over the past couple of weeks in connection with his speculations regarding Agency involvement in Watergate. The Senator seemed to accept and support the Agency's firm denials of such involvement and asked that we keep him fully up-to-date.

In the course of our conversation he confided that Senator Stennis' recovery was distressingly slow.

Recalling the abortive attempt in 1970 to organize under FBI Director Hoover a Domestic Intelligence Organization, Symington remarked that the Agency was very fortunate that this effort never got off the ground and that the lesson to be drawn was that henceforth, if the Agency was ever asked to do anything that appeared improper we should insist that the request be put in writing.

8. (Confidential - JMM) Met with Ed Braswell, Chief Counsel, Senate Armed Services Committee, and reviewed the problem of getting tighter espionage laws to protect sensitive intelligence information. Braswell noted that consideration of such a bill would raise a jurisdictional question but he agreed that if it were presented in the form of an amendment to the Agency Act, and was addressed specifically to the protection of "intelligence sources and methods" the Armed Services Committee should be in a position to assert primary jurisdiction.

9. (Internal Use Only - RJK) Paul Haygood, Administrative Assistant to Senator Bennett Johnston (D., La.), called and said that the Senator would be traveling to several countries in the Middle East during the Christmas recess. Haygood was interested in finding out for the Senator whether there was any personal risk involved in this area at this time. He recalled that prior to another Middle East trip which had to be canceled the Senator had been advised by our people about security in the area.

After checking with [redacted] returned Mr. Haygood's 25X1 call and told him that the Peace Conference this weekend will probably be a critical period and the situation could tip in either direction. We suggested that the Senator wait until the middle of next week and check with us at which time we will be in a better position to advise him. Haygood said the Senator will be going to North Carolina on 26 December but that the Senator or he (Haygood) will call [redacted] Wednesday, 26 December. 25X1

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25X1 10. (Confidential - JGO) Met with Mike Finley, House Foreign Affairs Committee staff, and received from him a copy of a letter dated 13 December from Senator John Tunney to Acting Secretary of State Rush concerning [redacted] a prisoner in Cuba. Finley told me that Representative Dante Fascell would like to ascertain whether the Agency has any objection to the suggested prisoner exchange or any other comments on the matter that we would care to provide for his benefit. [redacted] was formerly associated with the Agency.

25X1 11. (Confidential - JGO) Received a call from Dorothy Fosdick, Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations staff, who said Senator Henry Jackson would appreciate a briefing during the day on the ChiCom leadership, strategic and general political situation and Sino/Soviet relations. She noted he would also be interested in whatever information we might have on the cancellation of the Heath visit to China.

12. (Confidential - JGO) Received a call from John Brady, House Foreign Affairs Committee staff, alerting us to the statements made on the floor yesterday by Representative Lester Wolff concerning Shan States opium offers. I met with Brady later in the day and delivered back to him certain documents he had loaned for NARCOG review.

13. (Confidential - JGO) Met with Frank Slatinshek, Chief Counsel, House Armed Services Committee, and reviewed with him the correspondence file relating to Chairman Jack Brooks', House Government Operations Committee, questioning of Chairman Sampson, GSA, concerning Agency authority for disposal of Federal property. I also gave Slatinshek a copy of the OGC classified legal memo on this subject. His original reaction was this may well be an area in which the Committee can help by providing positive legislation in the package that will be under consideration next year to avoid such questions in the future. I also discussed with him the possibility of an amendment to the National Security Act to include criminal sanctions for unauthorized disclosure of sources and methods information. Slatinshek said that although the policy of the Committee has generally been against inclusion of criminal sanctions that in this instance he feels the Committee may be willing to consider such a provision.

I briefed Slatinshek on a number of current intelligence items. See Memo for Record.

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